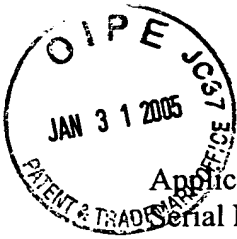


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark Hoffman et al.
Serial No.: 09/696,762
Filed: October 25, 2000
For: INVESTMENT ADVICE SYSTEMS AND METHODS
Examiner: Nga B. Nguyen
Art Unit: 3628

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the August 12, 2004, Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the Response is due on or before February 12, 2005. A check in the amount of \$1,020.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3), is enclosed herewith.

No additional fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 24309-501). A duplicate of this Petition is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Eric Schulman, Esq. (Reg. No. 43,350)
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris
Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111
Telephone 617/348-3005
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Customer Service No. 30623

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Date: January 31, 2005